

meeting with regularly, and he came to talk about his personal faith. He was a very devout believer and also, frankly, a rather good amateur theologian. He gave a very good explication of his faith and it was very inspiring to all of us there. He was a wonderful person in many different ways and part of the charm of his strip is that his characters also were amateur theologians and amateur philosophers.

I find that very fascinating. In fact, it was so fascinating that a young seminary student in the 1970s wrote a book entitled, *The Gospel According to Peanuts*. It was a charming little book written on the basis of the strips. The author reproduced a number of the strips, performed exegesis, and explained the theology of the Peanuts group.

He was a wonderful person. It was a loss for all of us that his life was cut short and we could not enjoy a fresh comic strip every day, Sunday, but the purpose of this resolution is to acknowledge all that he has done and to recognize his achievements by allowing the use of the Rotunda to present him a Congressional Gold Medal posthumously.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, the Capitol rotunda has been the scene of many ceremonies in our Nation's history, some jubilant, others more somber. The rotunda has witnessed the awarding of Congressional Gold Medals to 34 worthy Americans who have distinguished themselves in various ways in service to our country. I think most of us can think of no American who has brought more smiles to more faces of children and adults alike, and thus deserves to join the pantheon of distinguished gold medal honorees more than the late Charles Schulz.

In recognition of Mr. Schulz' lifetime of service, last year Congress enacted and President Clinton signed legislation authorizing this honor, which is Congress' greatest expression of national appreciation for civilians.

□ 1845

A gold medal, Madam Speaker, is entirely appropriate for a tireless man who drew every frame of his Peanuts comic strip for nearly half a century.

His cartoonist career followed his service in the infantry in World War II, during which he entertained his comrades with cartoons about military life. I am certain that his cartoons helped many soldiers endure the horrors and hardships that confronted them during that time.

I think all of us regret that Charles Schulz cannot be present to enjoy the honor that the Congress has bestowed. Although Mr. Schulz left us early last year, his work, of course, is timeless.

Fortunately for us and for generations yet unborn, Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy, and the rest of the Peanuts gang will always be here to amuse us and, yes, to teach us. They have become, as last year's legislation

noted correctly, part of the fabric of our national culture.

Madam Speaker, there could be a no more fitting use of the rotunda than to honor Charles Schulz in this way.

Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the sponsor of the resolution and last year's legislation, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), in whose district Mr. Schulz lived.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House to approve House Concurrent Resolution 149 to allow us to use the rotunda on June 7 to honor Charles Schulz, Sparky Schulz, who not only is an institution in this country and all the other countries where his comic strip was printed daily in all of the different newspapers, but also a very good personal friend and a constituent.

Scott Adams, who is the creator of the Dilbert cartoon, once remarked about Sparky's passing, "It's the end of an era, and it's hard to imagine that cartooning will ever be the same. In basketball, you can say that Michael Jordan was the greatest ever. In cartooning, Charles Schulz was the greatest ever and probably the greatest there will ever be."

I think it is most fitting that this Congress chose to bestow on Mr. Schulz the Congressional Gold Medal, and I think it speaks more to, than just to his cartooning. He was a great American, a great citizen. For 50 years, every day he drew his own Snoopy cartoon. He was also there, it was mentioned, in World War II entertaining the troops. It is also important to note that this great American was there on D-Day on the front lines.

Charles Schulz is most deserving of this recognition; and it is appropriate, I believe, that we allow the rotunda to be used for this purpose. I would ask all of my colleagues to support this effort.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for his remarks and for his personal observations with regard to Mr. Schulz.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for the measure.

Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 149

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on June 7, 2001, for a ceremony to present posthumously a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Charles M. Schulz. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.*

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 149.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

## ELECTING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 148) electing Members to serve on the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 148

*Resolved,*

## SECTION 1. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.

(a) JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee on Printing, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

- (1) Mr. Doolittle.
- (2) Mr. Linder.
- (3) Mr. Hoyer.
- (4) Mr. Fattah.

(b) JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

- (1) Mr. Ehlers.
- (2) Mr. Hoyer.
- (3) Mr. Davis of Florida.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN, JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House a communication from the Honorable VERNON J. EHLERS, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, June 4, 2001.

Hon. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Public Law 100-696 Section 801 (40 USC para. 188a(b)) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Library are provided positions on the Capitol Preservation Commission.